

INSIDE GARDNER

City and property owners play a role in clearing snow and ice

The cold season is quickly approaching, which means snow, ice and other inclement weather is sure to follow. This time of year requires major efforts on the city's part, both in clearing travel routes for the public and educating them on the process in order for their travel to be safe and efficient.

"Our snow and ice policy is intended to keep vehicular traffic moving at a safe and constant speed," said Michael Kramer, interim Public Works Director. "It takes a lot of preparation, training, manpower, equipment and ice melt to provide the public with an adequate snow and ice response. Even a snow event of two-inch accumulation or less may take 24 to 36 hours to address."

The city treats and plows over 190 lane miles of roadway for ice and snow, beginning with Intersections and Arterial Roadways, followed by Collector Streets, and finally residential areas and cul-de-sacs. "Making these roadways safe for travel during a storm event is our top priority," Kramer said. "Generally, these roadways have much higher traffic and reach within just a few blocks of a resident's home."

The State of Kansas Department of Transportation maintains snow and ice removal for Main Street/Highway 56. The City of Gardner Parks Department provides snow removal for trails throughout the city.

Sidewalks are a different process, and one that requires efforts on the part of citizens.



Per city ordinance, property owners – both for businesses and homes – must remove snow and ice from their adjacent sidewalks within 48 hours of a snow or ice event, or 48 hours after sunrise should the event occur at night. Sidewalks are considered clear when there is bare pavement showing a width of at least three feet (preferably four feet).

"To assure the safety of our citizens, the plowing of streets is the city's responsibility, while the clearing of sidewalks is that of property owners. Even in their absence, property owners still need to make sure their sidewalks are clear for others to use," Kramer said.

There are several things that citizens can do to help during a snow and ice event: Remove cars from the street, ensure tires are rated for snow and are in good shape, stock up on supplies to reduce trips, shovel snow from driveways onto lawns rather than the street, and give snowplow drivers plenty of room.

For more information on the city's snow and ice removal process, visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/

Awards to recognize establishments for snow and ice clearance

A new award program called the Winter Wonder Awards will recognize businesses and organizations for excellence in snow and ice clearance from sidewalks this cold season.

The program, launched by Gardner's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Committee, allows for establishments to either apply for recognition themselves or be nominated by supporters. Nominations can be made by calling the Winter Wonder Nomination line at 913.856.0945 or by completing the online form at www.gardnerkansas.gov/winterwonderawards through March 31, 2017.

In addition to winning an award from the committee, winners will also be listed on the city's website and in its newsletter. Establishments will be awarded based on number of nominations. Photos must accompany each submission.

For questions about the award program, contact ADA Coordinator Jeanne Koontz at jkoontz@gardnerkansas.gov or 913.856.0945.





City launches ADA resource page

With accessibility being of major emphasis for Gardner, the city recently launched a resource page for citizens with disabilities to help them get their needs met.

The webpage, www.gardnerkansas.gov/ADAResources, focuses on government and community programs and their accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which is designed to create equal opportunity for the disabled. Hard copies are also available at City Hall.

“By putting these resources together in one location, we hope to benefit our citizens by providing them with whatever help they may need as members of the Gardner community,” said City Administrator Cheryl Harrison-Lee.

The city also would like to remind its citizens about its accommodation process. Any person desiring reasonable accommodations in accordance with the ADA can request one by filling out an application. The application, available at www.gardnerkansas.gov, can then be returned to ADA Coordinator Jeanne Koontz either at City Hall or via email at cityclerk@gardnerkansas.gov.

For more information, contact Koontz at the above email address or 913.856.0945. For general information on ADA, visit www.ada.gov.

Visit the resource page at
www.gardnerkansas.gov/ADAResources

A message from MAYOR CHRIS MORROW

Greetings fellow citizens,

As fall prepares to turn to winter and it slowly turns colder in Gardner, Kansas, you will all soon begin planning for the holiday season—a time of joy, goodwill and giving. In other words, it will soon begin to look a lot like Christmas in Gardner!

The 26th Annual "Christmas in the Park" holiday event will kick off the season with the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, Nov. 28, at Cornerstone Park. Seasonal music will be performed by children from each of the area elementary schools as

well as the Madrigal Choir from Gardner Edgerton High School. Also, during the lighting ceremony, with a little help from our friends at Johnson County Fire District #1, we will welcome Santa to Gardner. Lastly, I, along with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and a special guest, will flip the switch that turns on thousands of beautiful lights throughout the park. Please come out and join your friends and neighbors at Cornerstone Park, sing along with the carolers, and help usher in the holiday season in Gardner.

This year, we will again be sponsoring the Christmas for Children program through the

Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. Many thanks to those who donate to this program, and to the volunteers who help ensure all of the children in Gardner have a very Merry Christmas. Gardner residents have large hearts filled with good tidings and giving, and we look forward to spreading cheer to all through the generosity of our community.

The future is bright for Gardner, and with 2017 quickly approaching, it causes me to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy here. This community is wonderful, compassionate, thoughtful, filled with a can-do spirit, and devoted to the welfare of others. I pray every member of our community enjoys a safe and joyous holiday season—from Thanksgiving Day through Christmas—and have a Happy New Year in 2017.

Best regards,



Come join the Mayor and many special guests at the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, Nov. 28, at Cornerstone Park (215 N. Center St.).

Police experiment tests citizens' crosswalk safety knowledge

The Gardner Police Department recently conducted a safety experiment in the crosswalks on North Center Street at both Shawnee Street and Brittany Court. Two plain-clothed officers – one in a wheelchair and the other pushing – waited for approaching traffic to allow them to use the crosswalks.

When motorists were found violating the law, assisting officers conducted traffic stops, and in the two-hour span, the Police Department observed 24 violations and conducted 13 traffic stops. The event was an educational effort, with violators not cited for their infractions and instead provided with education on crosswalk safety.

"We used this opportunity to test the public's crosswalk law compliance and knowledge," said Police Chief James



Pruetting. "We commend our officers' efforts and the public's receptiveness to the information provided."

The law requires approaching traffic to yield to anyone in the truncated dome area, the transitional area of textured ground surface found on the sidewalk just before a crosswalk. Failure to comply can lead to a citation of \$110, including court costs.

Get ready for winter weather with these preparedness tips

In anticipation of the winter season, here are a few cold weather preparedness tips:

- **Check the Forecast:** Motorists and pedestrians should always find out about current and future weather conditions before leaving home.
- **Be Equipped:** Prepare a safety kit of emergency supplies for your car. The kit should include adequate clothing and blankets, flashlights, a first-aid kit, non-perishable food items, etc. Also, make sure your home is adequately stocked with these items.
- **Think Ahead:** Be prepared for possible power outages. Use flashlights during
- **Winterize Your Vehicle and Home:** Keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full and check your tires, wiper blades, fluids, lights, belts and hoses. At home, ensure proper insulation by placing weather stripping around doors and windows. Allow faucets to drip to prevent freezing and open cabinets to allow warm air to reach the pipes.
- **Travel Carefully:** Plan for extra travel time during hostile conditions. Going the speed limit or above can increase your risk of an accident. When walking, go slow and watch out for icy surfaces.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can get severe weather and public safety alerts by signing up for the city's notification service called TextCaster. Simply go to www.gardnerkansas.gov/communications, click on TextCaster, and select the messages you wish to receive. Notifications will come straight to your phone via text or email.



CITY COUNCIL

Chris Morrow, Mayor
913.269.8495 (Cell)
cmorrow@gardnerkansas.gov

Steve Shute, Council President
913.938.6887 (Cell)
sshute@gardnerkansas.gov

Dr. Todd Winters, Council Vice President
913.271.3587 (Cell)
twinters@gardnerkansas.gov

Kristy Harrison, Council Member
913.884.2115 (Home)
kharrison@gardnerkansas.gov

Rich Melton, Council Member
913.207.7152 (Cell)
rmelton@gardnerkansas.gov

Lee Moore, Council Member
913.938.6686 (Cell)
lmoore@gardnerkansas.gov

Messages may also be left for any Council Member or the Mayor at 913.856.0939

CITY MANAGEMENT

Cheryl Harrison-Lee, City Administrator
913.856.0939
charrison-lee@gardnerkansas.gov

Larry Powell, Business and Economic Development Director
913.856.0919
lpowell@gardnerkansas.gov

Laura Gourley, Finance Director
913.856.7535
lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov

Scott Garrie, Parks and Recreation Director
913.856.0936
sgarrie@gardnerkansas.gov

James Pruetting, Police Chief
913.856.7312
jpruetting@gardnerkansas.gov

Michael Kramer, Interim Public Works Director
913.856.0914
mkramer@gardnerkansas.gov

Gonzalo Garcia, Utilities Director
913.856.0980
ggarcia@gardnerkansas.gov

POSTAL PATRON GARDNER, KS 66030

Mark your calendars



City Council Meetings:

- Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 19 at 7 p.m.

*View more meeting dates at www.gardner-kansas.gov

Don't forget!

Christmas for Children Program

This holiday season, the Christmas for Children Program will provide gifts to underprivileged children in the Gardner-Edgerton USD 231 School District. The program is open to any parent or guardian who meets income guidelines and is in need of holiday gift assistance for their child/children. To apply, you must fill out an application, available at Gardner City Hall and the Johnson County Multi-Service Center. Applications will only be accepted on a walk-in basis in the Large Meeting Room at the Gardner Public Library (137 E. Shawnee St.) at one of these two application sessions: Saturday, Nov. 5 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 12 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. There will be no guarantees made for any late applications received. "Adopters" will be contacted after the last session to begin shopping.



To view the most current calendar of all upcoming Parks and Recreation events, scan the QR code with your phone using a QR scanner app!



UPCOMING GARDNER PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Youth Programs				
Christmas in the Park	Nov. 28	N/A	Any	Free
Santa's Workshop	Nov. 28, Dec. 12	N/A	Any	Free
Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do	Nov. 28-Dec. 21	Nov.	Ages 3-6	\$45
Karate for Kids	Nov. 29-Dec. 22	Nov. 22	Ages 6-12	\$45
Brazilian Ju-Jitsu	Dec. 2-Dec. 17	Nov. 22	Up to age 12	\$50
Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt	Dec. 12	Dec. 9	Ages 2-10	\$3
Little Ballers Basketball	Jan.-Feb.	Nov. 18	Pre-K-1st Grade	\$50
Competitive Basketball	Jan. 14	Dec. 9	1st-6th Grade	\$400/team
Special Olympics Basketball	Jan.-March	Call for info	Ages 8 and Up	Free
Special Olympics Cheerleading	Jan.-March	Call for info	Ages 8 and Up	Free
Special Olympics Skiing	Jan.-March	Call for info	Ages 8 and Up	Free
Adult/Family Programs				
Coffee with the Director [^]	Nov. 9 (7:45-8:15 a.m.)	N/A	Any	Free
Mother-Son Laser Tag	Nov. 12	Nov. 4	Boys Ages 5-12	\$25
Investment Classes (Edward Jones)*	Nov. 19, Dec. 14	One week in advance	Ages 18 and Up	Free
Chiefs Tickets	Games: Nov. 20, Dec. 18	Purchase two weeks before	Any	\$45
Breakfast at the North Pole	Dec. 10	N/A	Any	\$5 at City Hall, \$6 at Door
Senior Potluck & Card Party	Every third Saturday	N/A	60+	Bring a dish

[^]This new monthly event will be a chance for residents to have a wide range of discussion with Parks and Recreation Director Scott Garrie and learn more about projects, programs, events and planning.

*For the Investment Classes, please RSVP one week prior at 913.856.6233 or at aaron.wyant@edwardjones.com